GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3969
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2000
DISTRIBUTION OF LAND TO SC/ST
PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the `Forum of SC/ST Parliamentarians` in the representations submittedto the Prime Minister on 17.12.1996, 01.09.1997 & 23.07.1998 have demanded allocation of funds for the development of SCs/STs proportion to the population of this community from Ninth Five Year Plan onwards;

(b) if so, the details of the funds demanded, allocated and released by the Union Government for the procurement and distribution of land of SCs and STs families in the First (1997-98) Second (1998-99) and Third Annual Plans (1999-2000) of the Ninth FiveYear Plan; and

(c) the reasons for not meeting the demands?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO)

(a) Yes, Sir. In the Memorandum submitted by the Forum to the Prime Minister on17.12.96, 1.9.97 & 23.7.98, demand was made for the allocation of funds for the development of SCs and STs in proportion to their population.

(b)&(c) Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is primarily responsible forsustainable agriculture production. Through implementation of various schemes, the Department promotes agricultural development, supports soil and water conservation schemes towards agricultural expansion and consolidation, promotes expansion and strengthening of agriculturtal infrastructure. These activities benefit farmers of all categories including SC/ST. As the schemes are area specific and production oriented in nature, funds are not demanded on the basis of population of SC/ST. However, wherever possible Special Component Plan (SCP) for SCs and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) for STs are carved out of the annual plans.